GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3171
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2000
RELATION WITH PAKISTAN
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Pakistan sambandhi nitiyan badalne ka samay` appearing in the Dainik Jagaran dated January 9, 2000;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to review the foreign policy pertaining to Pakistan involvement in cross-border terrorism;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which the decision in this regard is likely to be taken?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) Yes, Sir. Government have seen the news-item appearing in Dainik Jagaran on January 9, 2000.

(b)-(d) Government have been appropriately and effectively bringing to the attention of the international community Pakistan`s support to cross-border terrorism and continued attempts to interfere in the internal affairs of India. The facts regarding Pakistan`s state sponsorship of terrorism have been brought before international fora and have also been raised at high-level bilateral discussions with world leaders. The international community now openly recognizes Pakistan`s policy of state sponsorship of terrorism. There is a greater awareness on the impact this has on the security of the country and the region as a whole. This awareness is being reflected in the international media coverage on Pakistan, and in the statements by official spokesmen of several Governments. Government will continue to take all necessary measures to preserve the security and territorial integrity of the country.